

## If you fall in - Play It Cool!

If you fall in the water, stay calm. Look for the nearest downstream safety ladder or float line. Swim or float to the ladder to climb out, or grab the line and pull yourself to the bank.

If you are unable to locate a ladder or line, use the "drownproofing" method to stay afloat:

- First, relax your body in the water. Let the back of your head and your shoulders come to the surface.
- Next, pull your knees tightly into your chest and "tread" water with your arms. Every five to ten seconds, raise your face out of the water and take a deep breath.
- Repeat the breathing as you continue to tread water with your knees up. This method, which will keep you afloat for a long time, will not tire you as much as swimming.

**STAY  
CALM!**

**GRAB THE  
SAFETY LINE  
OR LADDER!**

**USE THE  
DROWN-  
PROOFING  
METHOD!**



# Staying Safe

on the  
**California Aqueduct**  
with Albert and Einstein



Visit DWR's Website at <http://www.dwr.water.ca.gov/>

If you need this publication in an alternate form,  
contact the Office of Water Education at 1-800-272-8869.





## The California Aqueduct

is a 444 miles long, concrete canal built to provide water for our homes, farms and factories. It is operated by the Department of Water Resources. The Aqueduct winds through the western San Joaquin Valley and is one of the longest aqueducts in the world! The Aqueduct is an effective way to move water, but – **It is not a safe place to swim and play!**

**Stay out of Aqueduct!**

**WOW!**  
LOOK IT ALL THE  
WATER, ALBERT!

### Fishing can be dangerous!

Fishing is allowed along the Aqueduct but that, too, can be dangerous. When you go fishing, beware of aqueduct dangers:

- **When you fish, stand back from the Aqueduct's sloping concrete sides.** They are steep, slippery, and difficult to climb. You could slide right into the water.
- **Wear rubber-soled shoes for safe footing at the Aqueduct.**
- **Always wear a life preserver when fishing at the Aqueduct.**
  - If you go to the Aqueduct to fish, **look for the safety ladders and lines.** Safety ladders along both sides of the aqueduct are marked by bright yellow paint. The safety lines are strung on plastic floats, close to bridges and other structures that cross the Aqueduct. These ladders and lines can save your life.
- **Do not go into the water** to land a fish, recover fishing gear, or anything else. It's very deep and too dangerous.
- **Take your own drinking water.** The Aqueduct water has not been treated, and is not safe to drink.
- **Bring a pal.** Never fish alone.

### Be safe - not sorry!

- **Make sure your parents know where you are** at all times.
- **Obey the warning signs.** They are there to tell you of dangers.
- **The water looks calm, but it's really not.** There are fast currents that can carry you away quickly.
- **Don't play close to the Aqueduct.**
- **Do not climb structures or fish from bridges** crossing the Aqueduct. These are not safe fishing spots.
- **Do not climb gates or fences.**

**EINSTEIN,  
WAIT! DON'T  
SWIM IN THERE -  
IT'S  
DANGEROUS!**

